PATIENT PACKAGE INSERT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PHARMACISTS' REGULATIONS (PREPARATIONS) – 1986

The medicine is dispensed with a doctor's prescription only

Melodil 25, 50

Tablets

Composition:

Each film-coated **Melodil 25** tablet contains:
Maprotiline HCl 25 mg

Each film-coated **Melodil 50** tablet contains:
Maprotiline HCl 50 mg

For the list of inactive and allergenic ingredients in the preparation, please see in section 2 "Important information regarding some of the ingredients of the medicine" and section 6 "Further Information".

Read this leaflet carefully in its entirety before using the medicine. It is recommended that you have someone close to you read this leaflet. This leaflet contains concise information about the medicine. If you have further questions, refer to the doctor or pharmacist.

This medicine has been prescribed for the treatment of your ailment. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them even if it seems to you that their medical condition is similar.

Antidepressants increase the risk of suicidal behavior and thoughts in children, adolescents and young adults.

On starting treatment with the medicine, patients of all ages and their relatives must monitor behavioral changes such as: worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts, aggressiveness, and the like. If such changes occur, refer immediately to the doctor.

1. WHAT IS THE MEDICINE INTENDED FOR?

For treatment of states of depression, and states of anxiety accompanied by depression.

Therapeutic group: This medicine belongs to the group of tetracyclic antidepressants.

2. BEFORE USING THE MEDICINE

Do not use the medicine if:

- You are sensitive (allergic) to maprotiline HCl or to any of the additional ingredients contained in the medicine (see section 6 "Further Information") or to other medicines from the same pharmacological class (tetracyclic antidepressants).
- You are suffering, or have suffered in the past, from convulsions (epilepsy) or if there is suspicion of this disease.
- Do not use the medicine during the acute stage of a myocardial infarction (MI).
- You are being concomitantly treated with medicines from the monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) group for depression or are within 14 days of having discontinued treatment with them.

Special warnings regarding use of the medicine
Before treatment with Melodil, inform the doctor if:

- you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or are breastfeeding.
- you have suffered a myocardial infarction (MI) in the past or if you are suffering, or have suffered in the past, from heart and/or vascular diseases.
- you are suffering from increased intraocular pressure, from glaucoma or have a history of glaucoma, a history of urinary retention.
- you are suffering, or have suffered in the past, from impaired function of: the respiratory system (e.g., asthma), the liver, the kidney/urinary system, digestive system (e.g., ulcer), thyroid, blood system (e.g., clotting, etc.), nervous system, from prostatic hyperplasia, from alcoholism, and if you are receiving electroconvulsive therapy (ECT).
- you are being treated with phenothiazine antipsychotics, as taking **Melodil** together with these medicines increases the risk of convulsions.
- you are suffering, or have suffered in the past, from bipolar disorder (manic depression), or if you have a family history of suicide, bipolar disorder and/or depression.
- you are due to undergo surgery (including dental) or any other procedure requiring anesthesia.

This medicine may cause a decrease in the number of white blood cells; therefore, blood counts should be performed in patients suffering from fever or from sore throats during treatment with **Melodil**.

This medicine may cause particular sensitivity upon exposure to the sun; therefore, avoid exposure to the sun and take care to have proper protection (long clothes, hat, sunscreens, etc.).

An increase in suicidal thoughts and actions and hostility have been observed in children, adolescents and young adults up to the age of 24 who took antidepressants, especially at the beginning of treatment or when the dosage was changed. Nevertheless, your doctor can prescribe this medicine when he thinks it is for your benefit. If the doctor prescribed this medicine and you are interested in discussing it with him – refer to the doctor again. Inform your doctor immediately if any of the detailed side effects occur or worsen.

Information for families and caregivers: Relatives and caregivers must monitor if the child or the patient shows signs of behavioral changes, such as: unusual anxiety, restlessness, panic attacks, trouble sleeping, irritability, hostility, aggressiveness, impulsivity, agitation, excitement/overexcitement, mania or hypomania or other unusual changes in behavior; exacerbation of the depressive state or suicidal thoughts. This recommendation should be adhered to extra strictly in patients aged 18-24. Report such signs to the attending doctor immediately. Assess such signs on a daily basis, especially during the early stages of the antidepressant treatment and when the dose is increased or lowered, as these changes can be sudden. Such signs may be associated with increased risk of suicidal thoughts or suicidal behavior, and can indicate the need for close monitoring and possibly for a change of the medicine.

Children and adolescents
This medicine is not usually intended for use in children and adolescents below the age of 18. When used in children of this age group, the doctor will weigh the risk versus the benefit in taking this medicine.

Drug interactions
If you are taking, or have recently taken, other medicines, including non-prescription medicines and nutritional supplements, inform the doctor or pharmacist. Especially inform the doctor or pharmacist if you are taking:

- Medicines which affect the central nervous system (e.g., sedatives, hypnotics, medicines for Parkinson's, epilepsy, antiallergics, surgical anesthetics and narcotic analgesics).
- Anticholinergics or medicines with anticholinergic activity (e.g., preparations for abdominal spasms) or sympathomimetics (e.g., cough and cold medicines).
- Thyroid medicines.
- Antihypertensives.
- The risk of convulsions may rise when concomitantly used with phenothiazine antipsychotics, or when lowering the dose of benzodiazepines (sedatives or hypnotics).
- Liver enzyme inhibitors, such as cimetidine (for ulcer) or fluoxetine (antidepressant) – concomitant use of these medicines with **Melodil** may increase the **Melodil** levels in the blood.
- Medicines which lead to increased activity of liver enzymes, such as barbiturates, phenytoin (for convulsions). The doctor may adjust the **Melodil** dosage in such cases.
- Do not take concomitantly and within 14 days of completing treatment with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) for depression.

Use of the medicine and food
This medicine can be taken with or without food.

Use of the medicine and alcohol consumption
Do not drink wine or alcoholic beverages during the course of treatment with this medicine.

Pregnancy, breastfeeding and fertility
Do not use this medicine without consulting a doctor before starting treatment if you are planning to become pregnant, are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Driving and use of machines
Use of this medicine may impair alertness and therefore, caution must be exercised when driving a car, operating dangerous machinery and when engaging in any activity requiring alertness. Children must be warned about riding bicycles or playing near the road, and the like.

Important information regarding some of the ingredients of the medicine
Melodil contains lactose. If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to certain sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product (also see section 6 "Further information").

3. HOW SHOULD YOU USE THE MEDICINE?

Always use the preparation according to the doctor's instructions. Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you are uncertain about the dosage and treatment regimen of the preparation.

The dosage and the treatment regimen will be determined by the doctor only.

The usual dosage is generally:

Adults: The recommended starting dosage is 75 mg **Melodil** per day, given 1-3 times a day. However, in some patients, especially in the elderly, the starting dosage may be 25 mg. After about two weeks, the doctor may gradually increase the dosage.

For most patients, a maintenance dosage of 75-150 mg a day will be effective. In severe cases, the doctor may increase the dosage to a maximal dosage of 225 mg per day.

Elderly patients: The dosage of the medicine may be lower in patients above the age of 60; the recommended dosage is 50-75 mg per day.

Do not exceed the recommended dose.
Swallow the medicine with water.

Melodil 25– do not halve the tablet. There is no information regarding crushing or chewing the tablet.

Melodil 50– If necessary, the tablet can be halved for immediate use. There is no information regarding crushing or chewing the tablet.

If you accidentally take too high a dosage
If you took an overdose or if a child has accidentally swallowed the medicine, immediately refer to a doctor or proceed to a hospital emergency room and bring the package of the medicine with you. The symptoms of overdose may include: changes in heart rhythm, decreased blood pressure, convulsions, nervous system depression (including coma), changes in the EKG, drowsiness, rapid heart rate, involuntary movements, vomiting, cyanosis, shock, restlessness, nervousness, high fever, muscle rigidity, uncontrollable movements of the limbs and dilated pupils.

If you forgot to take this medicine
If you forgot to take this medicine at the required time, take a dose as soon as you remember, but if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the forgotten dose and take the next dose at the regular time. Never take two doses together!

Adhere to the treatment as recommended by the doctor. A few weeks may pass until you begin to feel better. Continue taking this medicine even if it takes time until your feeling improves. The effect of the medicine is sometimes only apparent after a few weeks.

Even if there is an improvement in your health, do not stop treatment with this medicine without consulting the doctor.

Do not take medicines in the dark! Check the label and the dose each time you take medicine. Wear glasses if you need them.

If you have further questions regarding use of this medicine, consult the doctor or pharmacist.

4. SIDE EFFECTS

As with any medicine, use of **Melodil** may cause side effects in some users. Do not be alarmed when reading the list of side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Refer to a doctor immediately if you experience the following effects:
Spasms in the muscles of the jaw, neck or back; slowed speech or difficulty speaking; dragging the legs when walking; uncontrollable tremor in different parts of the body; fever, chills, sore throat or flu-like symptoms; difficulty breathing or swallowing; rash; yellowing of the skin and eyes; irregular heartbeat.

Additional side effects
Common side effects – effects that occur in 1-10 users in 100:
Nervousness, anxiety, trouble sleeping, agitation; sleepiness, dizziness, tremor; dry mouth, constipation, blurred vision; nausea, weakness, fatigue, headache.

Rare side effects – effects that occur in 1-10 users in 10,000:
Hypotension, hypertension, rapid heartbeat, palpitations, arrhythmia, cardiac arrest, fainting; confusion (especially among the elderly), hallucinations, disorientation, false thoughts (delusions), restlessness, nightmares, hypomania, mania, exacerbation of psychosis, decrease in memory, loss of grip on reality; numbness, stinging, motor hyperactivity, inability to stand or sit still, convulsions, changes in the EEG, tinnitus, extrapyramidal symptoms, involuntary movements, speech disturbances; problems focusing eyes, dilated pupils, urinary retention, difficulty passing urine; rash, petechia, itching, photosensitivity, edema, fever; vomiting, esophageal irritation, diarrhea, bitter taste in the mouth, abdominal pain, difficulty swallowing; increased or decreased sexual desire (libido), impotence; increased or decreased blood sugar levels; changes in liver functions, jaundice, increased or decreased weight, excessive sweating, flushing, urinary frequency, oversalivation, nasal congestion, hair loss.

Side effects of unknown frequency (effects whose frequency has not yet been determined):
Bone marrow depression (including reduction of white blood cells and platelets), heart attack, peripheral neuropathy, sublingual adenitis, blackening of the tongue, stomatitis, intestinal obstruction, enlarged breasts in men, breast enlargement and galactorrhea in women, testicular swelling, pneumonia (associated in some cases with a reduction in white blood cells and increase in liver enzymes), Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis (life-threatening skin effects).

If a side effects occurs, if one of the side effects worsens or if you suffer from a side effect not mentioned in the leaflet, consult with the doctor.

Reporting side effects
Side effects can be reported to the Ministry of Health by clicking on the link "Report Side Effects of Drug Treatment" found on the Ministry of Health homepage (www.health.gov.il) that directs you to the online form for reporting side effects, or by entering the link: https://sideeffects.health.gov.il Additionally, you can report to "Unipharm Ltd.".

5. HOW SHOULD THE MEDICINE BE STORED?

- Avoid poisoning! This medicine and any other medicine must be kept in a closed place out of the reach and sight of children and/or infants to avoid poisoning. Do not induce vomiting without explicit instruction from the doctor.
- Do not use the medicine after the expiry date (exp. date) that appears on the package. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Store the medicine at a temperature below 25°C and in a place protected from light.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

In addition to the active ingredient, the medicine also contains:
Lactose monohydrate, Maize starch, Tricalcium phosphate, Pregelatinized starch, Talc, Magnesium stearate, Opadry.

Each **Melodil 25** tablet contains 24 mg lactose.
Each **Melodil 50** tablet contains 29 mg lactose.

What the medicine looks like and what are the contents of the package:
Melodil is packaged in trays (blisters) inserted into a carton package.

Each **Melodil** package contains 30, 50 or 100 tablets.

Not all package sizes may be marketed.

Melodil 25 tablets are round, biconvex, film-coated, pink.

Melodil 50 tablets are round, biconvex, film-coated, yellow-orange, with a break line on one side.

Registration holder and address: Unipharm Ltd., P.O. Box 16545, Tel Aviv, 6116401.

Manufacturer and address: Unipharm Ltd., "Mevo Carmel" Industrial Park.

Revised in August 2024.

Registration numbers of the medicine in the National Drug Registry of the Ministry of Health:
Melodil 25: 032 57 22655 01
Melodil 50: 032 47 22654 01

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